

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1023

March 11, 2017

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates a class C misdemeanor for knowingly using or claiming to have a false academic degree to obtain an award, fellowship, grant, honor, prize, or other recognition for which a certain type of academic degree is required.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 39-17-112(b) prohibits any person from knowingly using or claiming to have a false academic degree to obtain employment, a promotion in employment, or admission to a college, university, or other institution of higher learning.
- The proposed legislation adds an award, fellowship, grant, honor, prize, or other recognition for which a certain type of academic degree is required to the list.
- A class C misdemeanor is punishable by imprisonment up to 30 days, a fine up to \$50, or both.
- There will not be a sufficient number of prosecutions for state or local government to experience any significant increase in revenue or expenditures.
- It is assumed that most persons convicted under Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-112(b) do not serve a term of imprisonment, but merely pay a fine. It is assumed that the proposed legislation will not significantly increase local incarceration costs.
- The proposed legislation will not significantly impact the caseloads of the courts, public defenders, or district attorneys.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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